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CASEY OFFERS TO PLACE MEDIA STOCK IN BLIND TRUST

WASHINGTON (AP) - CIA Director William J. Casey, facing questions about his stock in a conglomerate that wants to buy ABC television, says he would be willing to put the shares in a blind trust created in 1983 for his other investments.

Casey said in a statement issued late Wednesday that his personal attorney would consult with government ethics officials about placing the Capital Cities Communications Inc. stock in the blind trust.

"It is a matter of indifference to Mr. Casey whether that stock is in the (blind) trust or not," CIA spokesman Kathy Pherson said.

Casey's ownership of stock in Capital Cities raises questions about his possible ownership of a significant stake in a major television network while directing U.S. intelligence.

While his Capital Cities holdings may be worth $7.5 million, Casey's share of the company he helped found amounts to only one quarter of one percent of outstanding shares, according to the Long Island newspaper Newsday.

CIA spokesman Patti Volz said Casey did not put the Capital Cities shares in the blind trust when it was created because Office of Government Ethics regulations don't permit such trusts to include a holding that is more than 20 percent of an entire stock portfolio.

David H. Martin, director of the ethics office, did not return a reporter's telephone call on Wednesday and an aide, Peter Andriole, said "the office has not made a statement yet."

Earlier Wednesday, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said he saw no problem with Casey's ownership of the Capital Cities stock outside the blind trust. But Speakes declined to say whether Casey should put the stock in a blind trust now that Capital Cities is proposing to take over ABC.

"That's not a judgment that I'm required to make," Speakes said. "It's one for the Office of Government Ethics."

Casey's stock in Capital Cities is among several holdings not included in the blind trust that the CIA director set up in 1983 under pressure from Congress. Casey had come under criticism for his stock dealings while CIA director.

His latest financial disclosure form, dated May 15, 1984, states that his Capital Cities stock is worth more than $250,000 and that his wife's holdings were valued at between $100,001 and $250,000.

Casey also reported that he and his wife received dividends from

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